



Corres. and Mail
BOX AF

IFW AF/1772

[22750/488]

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP ART UNIT 1772**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Klaus HECKEL et al.
Serial No. : 09/921,660
Filed : August 3, 2001
For : FLOOR COVERING MADE OF AN ELASTOMER
MATERIAL HAVING A RELIEF-TYPE PATTERNED
SURFACE
Examiner : Catherine A. Simone
Art Unit : 1772
Conf. No. : 8200

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date: May 19, 2004

Signature: 
Richard M. Rosati, Reg. No. 31,792

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

S I R:

This Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 is filed in response to the Final Office Action of April 5, 2004 in connection with the above-captioned application.

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 11 to 21 are pending in the present application. In view of the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 11 to 21 are allowable and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and that all certified copies of priority documents have been received.

II. Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 11 to 21 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 11 to 21 were rejected under